

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 191839

FOR AMBASSADOR AGGREY FROM SECRETARY KREPS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEWT, RO

SUBJECT: FIFTH SESSION OF JOINT AMERICAN-ROMANIAN
ECONOMIC COMMISSION

1. AS FRANK WEIL INDICATED TO YOU IN APRIL, MY EXTREMELY
HEAVY SCHEDULE LATER THIS YEAR MAKES IT VERY UNLIKELY THAT
I WILL BE ABLE TO TRAVEL TO ROMANIA IN THE FALL TO CHAIR
THE JOINT AMERICAN-ROMANIAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION. I WOULD
APPRECIATE, THEREFORE, YOUR EXPLORING WITH THE ROMANIAN
GOVERNMENT THE POSSIBILITY OF POSTPONING THE FIFTH SESSION
OF THE JOINT COMMISSION UNTIL NEXT SPRING WHEN I WOULD BE
ABLE TO PARTICIPATE.

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2. I BELIEVE THE NEXT SESSION WOULD BENEFIT IN SUBSTANCE
BY BEING DELAYED TO THE SPRING. BY THEN, BOTH SIDES WILL
HAVE HAD MORE OPPORTUNITY TO FOLLOW-UP ON THE MATTERS
RAISED DURING PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU'S VISIT HERE IN APRIL
AND DEVELOP MORE FULLY THE MANY INITIATIVES BEGUN AT THE
FOURTH SESSION. FOR INSTANCE, THE POSSIBILITIES OF EX-
TENDING MFN ON A MULTI-YEAR BASIS FOR ROMANIA MAY BE

CLEARER BY NEXT SPRING. WE ARE ALSO EXPECTING FURTHER ACTION THIS FALL ON JOINT CONSULTATIVE WORKING GROUPS IN BOTH THIRD COUNTRY COOPERATION AND ELECTRONICS. THE

ROMANIANS ALSO WILL BE PROVIDING, FOR OUR EVALUATION, INFORMATION ON THE CREDIT TERMS THEY RECEIVE FROM OTHER COUNTRIES. IN ADDITION, WE WOULD HOPE THAT BY THE SPRING MANY OF THE DECREE 223 PROPERTY CLAIMS MIGHT BE RESOLVED. FINALLY, THE DELAY WILL ALLOW A BETTER ASSESSMENT OF OUR TRADE TURNOVER AND PROMOTIONAL EFFORTS IN LIGHT OF OUR 1 BILLION DOLLAR OBJECTIVE FOR 1980. A CONSTRUCTIVE SESSION, ALBEIT A BIT DELAYED, IS MORE IN OUR MUTUAL INTEREST THAN ONE HELD WITH RIGID PROMPTNESS, BUT FOR WHICH WE ARE NOT FULLY PREPARED.

3. IN DISCUSSING THIS PROPOSAL WITH ROMANIAN OFFICIALS, PLEASE ASSURE THEM OF MY SINCERE INTEREST IN THE WORK OF THE JOINT COMMISSION AND IN SEEING IT CONTINUE TO BE AN ACTIVE FORCE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF U.S.-ROMANIAN COMMERCIAL RELATIONS. I BELIEVE THE FEW ADDITIONAL MONTHS BEFORE MY VISIT CAN BE PUT TO EXCELLENT USE BY BOTH SIDES TO MAKE THE FIFTH SESSION ONE OF OUR BEST.

4. PLEASE LET ME KNOW AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE THE GOR REACTION TO THE PROPOSED DELAY. VANCE

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